

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A device to deliver a powdery medicine for nasal cavity to spray a powdery medicine filled in a capsule by loading the capsule between a connection port on a side of a nozzle to spray the powdery medicine into the nasal cavity and a connection port on a side of a pump that supplies spray air to the nozzle,

the capsule being formed with a hole on each end in communication with a respective one of the connection ports and supplying spray air from the pump through the inside of the capsule to the nozzle, the device comprising:

a capsule holder that holds the capsule filled with the powdery medicine and is slidably movable in the longitudinal direction thereof, the capsule holder configured to position the capsule in a loading position between the connection port on the side of the nozzle and the connection port on the side of the pump, the capsule holder being movable forward and backward relative to the loading position of the capsule;

a cutter that partially cuts off both ends of the capsule that moves forward to the loading position while being held by the capsule holder to make the holes on opposite ends of the capsule, the cutter including a pair of blades secured in parallel with each other, each blade having a blade tip directed in a direction opposing the advancing direction of the capsule holder; and

a positioning guide located forwardly of the cutter to guide the ends of the capsule that moves forward to the loading position while being held by the capsule holder and causing the capsule to slide as far as a predetermined position,

wherein the peripheral portions of both of the connection ports are formed as seal projections that project from surfaces of the blades toward the a loading space, and

the distance between the seal projections is shorter than the length of the capsule after cutting off both ends by the cutter, so that both ends of the capsule loaded between them ~~[[is]]~~ are pressed by both seal projections.

2. (Previously Presented) The device to deliver a powdery medicine for a nasal cavity according to claim 1, wherein the positioning guide includes a pair of protrusions opposed to each other and a storage space is formed between the blades and the protrusions placed on a side thereof for discharging cut ends of the capsule cut off by the blades.

3. (Previously Presented) The device to deliver a powdery medicine for a nasal cavity according to claim 1, wherein the capsule holder is configured in the manner of a drawer having a recessed groove to hold the capsule, and to move forward and backward relative to a loading position of the capsule.

4. (Currently Amended) A device to deliver a powdery medicine for a nasal cavity to spray a powdery medicine filled in a capsule by loading the capsule between a connection port on a side of a nozzle to spray the powdery medicine into the nasal cavity and a connection port on a side of a pump that supplies spray air to the nozzle,

the capsule being formed with a hole on each end in communication with a respective one of the connection ports and to receive spray air from the pump through the inside of the capsule to the nozzle, the device comprising:

a capsule holder that holds the capsule filled with the powdery medicine, the capsule holder being movable between the connection port on the side of the nozzle and the connection port on the side of the pump, the capsule holder being movable forward and backward relative to a loading position of the capsule; and

a cutter that partially cuts off both ends of the capsule that moves forward to the loading position while being held by the capsule holder to make the holes on opposite ends of the capsule, the cutter includes a pair of blades secured in parallel with each other, each blade having a blade tip directed in a direction opposing the advancing direction of the capsule holder,

wherein the peripheral portions of both of the connection ports are formed as seal projections that project from surfaces of the blades toward the loading space, and

the distance between the seal projections is shorter than the length of the capsule after cutting off both ends by the cutter, so that both ends of the capsule loaded between them are pressed by both seal projections.

5. (Previously Presented) The device to deliver a powdery medicine for a nasal cavity according to claim 4, wherein the diameter for each hole formed on each end of the capsule by the cutter is set to a size substantially identical with or larger than the diameter for the opening of each of the connection ports in communication with the hole.

6. (Currently Amended) The device to deliver a powdery medicine for a nasal cavity according to claim 2, wherein the capsule holder is configured in the manner of a drawer having a recessed groove to hold the capsule, and to move forward and backward relative to a loading position of the capsule.